

Minutes from Grenfell Tower Compact Meeting-09/12/15

Meeting Chaired by David Collins.

Meeting attended by approx 12 household representatives and apologies received from a number of others.

David opened the meeting by explaining that we needed to prepare for our meeting with Victoria Borwick at 10.00am on Monday 14th December.

David informed those present the result of the survey/petition calling for an independent investigation into the TMO that has been conducted in Grenfell Tower that will provide quantitative evidence that we can present to our MP.

He stated that he had managed to speak to 48 households in Grenfell Tower and that 90% of had supported our call for for an independent investigation into the TMO.

David reported that 68% had felt harassed, lied to and pressurised into accepting into having works undertaken in their homes. David highlighted that he had thought that this kind of abuse was a thing of the past and was shocked to discover that nothing has changed.

David stated that of the 19 households that he had spoken to during the survey who had had a boiler installed in their hallway, 11 now want the HIU moved. This topic has led to many complaints from residents some of whom are afraid that their boilers are going to blow up.

Only four households out of 58 responded that they were happy with the outcome of the works and only one person felt that their concerns had been listened to.

Willie pointed out that we need to be careful about how we

interpret information as many residents are learning that others are having their HIU moved and are requesting the same.

David then informed residents about Cllr Blakeman's speech to full Council on December 2nd and the Tory response to the concerns that she has raised.

Edward pointed out that we can't rely on proposed visit from the Scrutiny Committee from RBKC to get any justice for residents.

David stated that the scrutiny visit is due to take place on 13th January but that he will write to Cllr Blakeman and see if this date can be changed as he will be away.

Topics to discuss with MP:

Residents broke into two groups to identify our primary concerns. The below topics were identified as residents' priorities to discuss with Lady Borwick.

- Quality of work
 - noise from boilers, unsightly pipes, workman's mess, drafty windows, noisy fans, etc.
 - Lift refurbishment/floor numbering, state of common areas and hallways.
- Moving HIU from hallways to Kitchen cupboard.
- Independent investigation into the TMO.
 - Threats/ intimidation, harrassment- use of solicitors letters, threats of eviction and loss of tenancy for non-compliance with Rydon/TMO.
 - Lack of respect shown to residents by the TMO
- Compensation – residents are requesting £1,500 to cover repair to damage to flats and for covering cost of taking time off work.

Edward wanted to request that Lady Borwick is informed of the many aspects of hardship and abuse experienced by residents and

requested that we do not leave our MP guessing when it comes to these facts.

David requested that residents contact the TMO complaints department, in order to provide future evidence of the many and ongoing issues and the problems residents receive from TMO. The complaints department email address is: complaints@kctmo.org.uk.

Edward suggested that we might put a poster in the GT Compact to inform residents not at the meeting.

David informed residents about Constantine Gras planned filming in Grenfell Tower and the offer of £100 to use a room for shooting for one day.

Compact informed that a meeting had taken place today with the GT Compact, the Lancaster west RA and the TMO with regards laying claim to use of new community rooms.

Steve suggested that we tape record future meetings with the TMO, so we have a record of what was said.

Actions:

David:

- Print posters publicising Lady Borwick's visit and drop off at Edward's on Friday night for distribution.
- Poster advertising the TMO complaints email address for noticeboard.
- David has agreed to email Cllr Blakeman and send her agenda for next weeks meeting with MP.